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PATENT (95/02) 25/3-1003 07 1.0.21

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Raffaele MORRONE et al.

Appl. No.:

Group:

Filed:

January 28, 2002 Examiner:

For: CHIRAL ACIDS IN USE OF ORTHOESTERS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF BOICATALYZED IRREVERSIBLE ESTERIFICATION

PROCESSES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

January 28, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- --4. (amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said esterification reaction is carried out at a temperature of 0-50°C, preferably at 45° C.--
- --5. (amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 comprising the step of adding the reaction mixture with an amount of water or of a alcohol with 1-8 carbon atoms